

10/522107

DT01 Rec'd PCT/PTC 24 JAN 2005

CLAIM AMENDMENTS

1-10. (Canceled)

11. (New) A fixing arrangement for fixing a spring and/or damping element to a continuous hollow member of a motor vehicle body of a motor vehicle, a through-opening for the spring and/or damping element being let into a lower flange of the hollow member, the spring and/or damping element fixing a wheel suspension member of the motor vehicle to the hollow member by way of a load-distributing support, the spring and/or damping element passing right through the hollow member and extending upwards from an upper flange of the hollow member, the load-distributing support comprising:

a radially protruding socket by which the spring and/or damping unit is supported against the upper flange of the hollow member, and

an adapter plate, which when fitted is fastened to the socket with a bracing and separating effect, supported on the lower flange of the hollow member.

12. (New) The fixing arrangement as claimed in claim 11, wherein a cage, which connects the upper flange and the lower flange of the hollow member together while reinforcing the member cross-section, is provided between the socket and the plate inside the hollow member.

13. (New) The fixing arrangement as claimed in claim 12, wherein the upper flange and the lower flange of the hollow member converge at an acute angle in an area where the cage is arranged.

14. (New) The fixing arrangement as claimed in claim 12, wherein the cage has a lower plate and an upper plate, and wherein the lower plate and the upper plate of the cage run approximately parallel to the lower flange and the upper flange of the hollow member.

15. (New) The fixing arrangement as claimed in claim 14, wherein the lower plate and the upper plate of the cage are connected together by way of a tubular sleeve.

16. (New) The fixing arrangement as claimed in claim 14, wherein the lower plate and the upper plate of the cage are connected together by way of multiple screw sleeves.

17. (New) The fixing arrangement as claimed in claim 12, wherein the cage takes the form of a preassembled unit.

18. (New) The fixing arrangement as claimed in claim 12, wherein the cage is arranged in an area of an offset of the hollow member.

19. (New) The fixing arrangement as claimed in claim 18, wherein the hollow member is an offset side member in an area of a wheel housing.